



St. Joseph

St. Joseph, Missouri's seventh largest city, had an estimated population of 72,661 in 2005, and is the Buchanan County seat. St. Joseph has a strong life sciences-based economy. Buchanan County is projected to have a population loss of 2 percent by 2025.

Employment

Unemployment Rate

(April 2006; not seasonally adjusted)

St. Joseph (Mo./Kan.)	4.4%
Buchanan County	4.5%

Employment

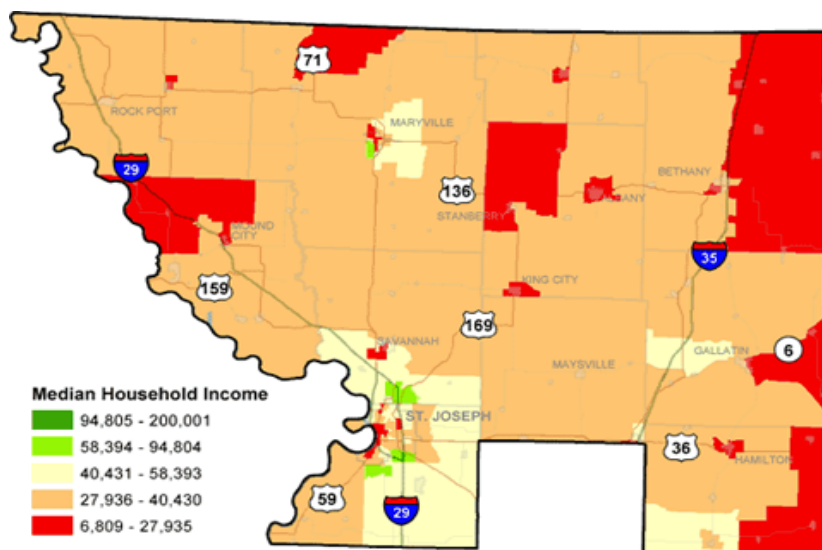
Private sector employment in Buchanan County in 2004 was made up largely of trade, transportation and utilities (25.1%), manufacturing (17.4%), and education and health services (15.8%). Government employed 2,209.

Buchanan County Employment by Industry, 2004

Industry	Number	%
Natural Resources & Mining	112	0.3
Construction	2,159	5.8
Manufacturing	6,479	17.4
Trade, Trans. & Utilities	9,346	25.1
Information	554	1.5
Financial Activities	2,563	6.9
Prof. & Business Services	4,275	11.5
Education & Health Services	5,882	15.8
Leisure & Hospitality	4,266	11.5
Other Services	1,550	4.2
Total	37,186	100.0

Income

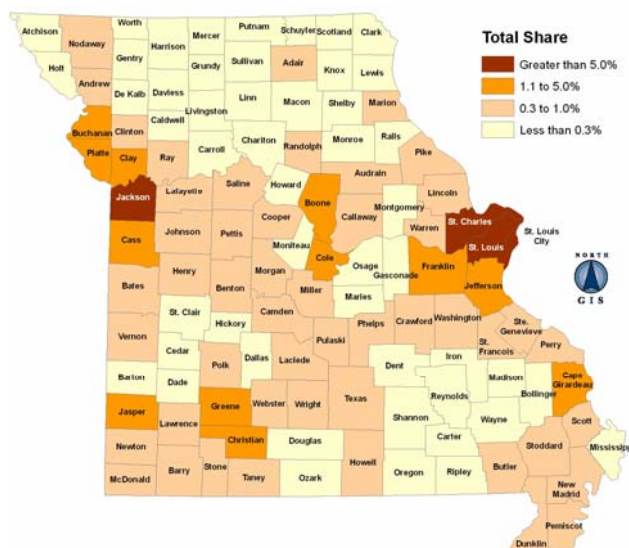
Median household income in St. Joseph in 2000 was \$32,663, lower than the state average of \$37,934.



Economic Share

Buchanan County accounts for 1.4% of Missouri's economy, based on personal income, employment and population. The county ranks 13th in the state for economic share.

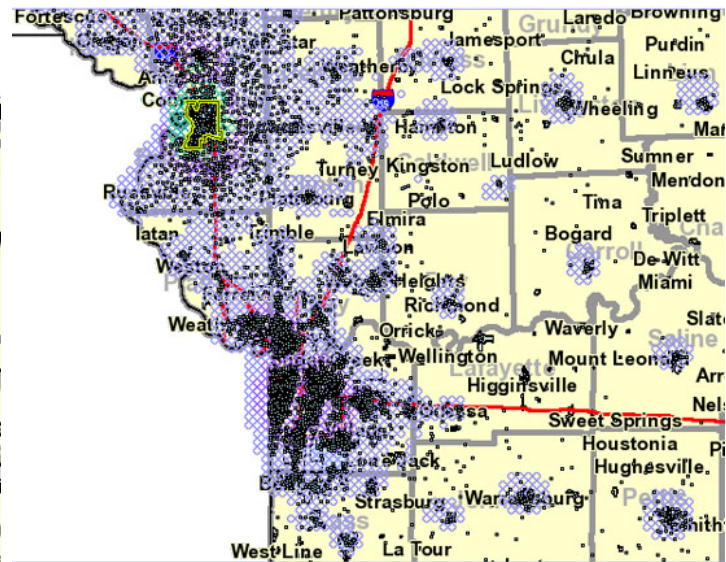
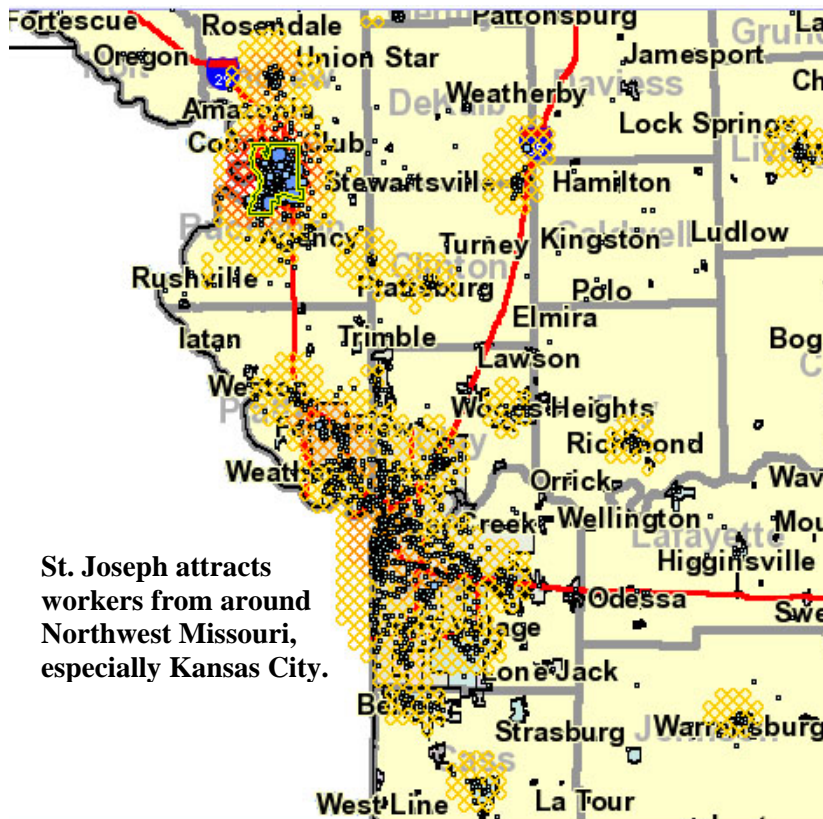
Economic Share in Missouri by County, 2004



Economic Facts

- The average annual wage in Buchanan County was \$30,576 in 2005, compared to \$36,192 for Missouri.
- Buchanan County per capita personal income was \$27,368 in 2004, ranking 16th among the counties.
- The poverty rate for St. Joseph was 13% in 2000, higher than the state's rate of 11.7%.

Commuting



Major Employers

Largest Employers in St. Joseph (250 employees or larger)	
ALTEC INDUSTRIES INC	NORTHWEST MO PSYCHIATRIC REHAB
AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE	PRIME TANNING
BOEHRINGER INGELHEIM VETMEDICA	SARA LEE FOODS
HEARTLAND HEALTH	SPECIALIZED SUPPORT SVC
HEARTLAND HEALTH SYSTEM	ST JO FRONTIER CASINO
HEARTLAND REGIONAL MEDICAL CTR	TRIUMPH FOODS
HY-VEE FOOD STORES	UNION WIRE ROPE CO
JOHNSON CONTROLS INC	WAL-MART SUPERCENTER
LESCHEN WIRE ROPE CO	WAL-MART SUPERCENTER
MEAD PRODUCTS	WESTERN RECEPTION DIAG CTR
MISSOURI WESTERN STATE COLLEGE	WIRE ROPE CORP OF AMERICA INC
	WIRECO

St. Joseph has a strong life sciences-based economy in such businesses as animal pharmaceuticals, agricultural chemicals, food processing, health care, animal research and development and seed production. St. Joseph is ideally located for these firms because Northwest Missouri boasts the highest crop yields for soybeans and corn in the state and provides easy access to raw materials for manufacturing.